



NEWS

about
Connecticut
Women

Connecticut General Assembly

Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

18-20 Trinity Street ■ Hartford, CT 06106

Phone: 860.240.8300 ■ Fax: 860.240.8314

E-mail: pcsw@po.state.ct.us

www.cga.state.ct.us/pcsw

Immediate Release

October 15, 2004

Barbara Potopowitz, Public Information Officer

860.240.8300/ direct: 860.240-8314/ cell: 860.235.7852

Representative Andrea Stillman Elected Chair of the Connecticut Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons

PCSW to provide research and support

Hartford - Representative Andrea Stillman (D-38) has been elected Chair of the statewide Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons in recognition of her leadership role in bringing this issue to the attention of lawmakers and the public. Stillman says, "I am honored that the task force membership elected me as their chairperson. I look forward to working with such a knowledgeable group of individuals on addressing this heinous problem and working towards future legislation." Trafficking of persons, which is defined as the buying, transporting, and selling of a human being for labor or sex, has gained the attention of the U.S. government within recent years and Connecticut is determined to offer the proper and necessary aid to victims within the state.

The Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons was established by the Connecticut General Assembly in 2004 by Special Act 04-8. The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) has a seat on the task force, and will also provide research and support. The task force will research the extent of trafficking in Connecticut, as well as measure and evaluate the progress of the state in preventing trafficking, protecting and providing assistance to victims of trafficking, and prosecuting

(more)

persons engaged in trafficking. Existing state criminal statutes will be analyzed for their adequacy in addressing trafficking. Both governmental and nongovernmental organizations will be consulted in an effort to strengthen the state's response to trafficking. The task force will report its findings and recommendations to the Connecticut General Assembly no later than January 1, 2006.

The following are the names of those persons who will serve on the Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons as of October 15, 2004: Representative Andrea Stillman; Richard Kehoe, Office of the Attorney General; Judith Rossi, Office of the Chief State's Attorney; Deborah DelPrete Sullivan, Office of the Chief Public Defender; Captain Thomas Davoren, Connecticut State Police; John McCarthy, Department of Labor; Sylvia Gafford-Alexander, Department of Social Services; Barbara Pickett, Department of Public Health; Gayle Brooks, Department of Children and Families; Jeanne Milstein, Child Advocate; Deborah Breck, Attorney; Senator John Kissel; Representative Robert Farr; Alison Hilding, Commission on Children; Leslie Gabel-Brett, Permanent Commission on the Status of Women; Eva Maldonado, Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission; Chief Nicholas Guerriero, Winsted Police Department; Kara Hart, Greater Hartford Legal Aid; Lisa Holden, Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Cinda Cash, Connecticut Women's Consortium; Joyce Hamilton, DemocracyWorks; and Shyamala Raman, Saint Joseph College.

For additional information on the Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons, **please contact the PCSW at 860.240.8300 or email (pcsw@po.state.ct.us)**.

The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women was established by the CT State Legislature in 1973. The Commission studies all matters concerning women, informs leaders about the nature and scope of discrimination, serves as a liaison between government and private interest groups concerned with services for women, promotes consideration of women for governmental position and works with state agencies to assess programs and practices as they affect women.

###